

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 167914
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY S/AA:ALATHERTON, JR.:NEA/ARN:MDRAPER/HLK
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
NSC - MR. SICK
S/S-0 SGOLDSMITH
NEA - MR. STERNER

-----128160 011012Z /12

O 010940Z JUL 78 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 167914

NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR CHARGE SUDDARTH

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 2

TAGS: PGOV, PDIP, IS, EG, JO, US

SUBJECT: LONDON MIDDLE EAST TALKS

1. FOLLOWING CONFIRMATION FROM EILTS (SEE SEPTTEL) THAT
EGYPTIANS HAVE NO OBJECTION TO OUR INFORMING JORDANIANS
OF NEXT STEPS WE ARE WORKING ON, YOU SHOULD GET IN TOUCH
WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN OR SHARAF TO MAKE THE POINTS
BELOW. MAKE CLEAR THAT WE DO NOT WANT TO DISTURB HUSSEIN
UNNECESSARILY DURING HIS HONEYMOON BUT THAT WE HOPE THERE
WILL BE SOME EXPEDITIOUS AND CONVENIENT WAY OF COMMUNICA-

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 167914

TING OUR VIEWS TO HIM, SINCE IN LONDON HE IS LIKELY TO
ENCOUNTER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LATEST U.S. INITIATIVE
(SEE BELOW). NOTE IN THIS CONNECTION THAT EMBASSY
LONDON HAS BEEN SENT A COPY OF THESE POINTS AND COULD
BRING THEM TO THE KING'S ATTENTION IF CROWN PRINCE PRE-
FERRED THIS CHANNEL.

2. KEY POINTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

--AS INDICATED IN THE POINTS DELIVERED TO KING THROUGH SHARAF ON JUNE 21, WE HAVE BEEN EXAMINING VARIOUS NEXT STEPS WE MIGHT TAKE IN THE WAKE OF THE DISAPPOINTING ISRAELI RESPONSES TO OUR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE WEST BANK/GAZA. WE CONSIDER IT PARTICULARLY

IMPORTANT THAT AN IMPASSE NOT NOW DEVELOP. WE ALSO CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT TO SHOW THE ENDURING STRENGTH OF THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO FIND A BASIC FRAMEWORK FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT, WHATEVER DIFFICULTIES WE ENCOUNTER IN MOVING ALONG THIS PATH.

--WE ARE DISCUSSING WITH THE EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS THE POSSIBILITY OF THEIR SENDING FOREIGN MINISTERS DAYAN AND KAMEL TO LONDON FOR TWO DAYS OF MEETINGS WITH SECRETARY VANCE PRESENT AFTER EUROPEAN SUMMIT - PROBABLY ABOUT JULY 18. THE INITIATIVE FOR THIS MEETING WILL COME FROM PRESIDENT CARTER, AND NOT FROM ISRAEL OR EGYPT. DESPITE PREMATURE PUBLICITY, NOTHING HAS BEEN FINALLY WORKED OUT AND, ASSUMING TALKS DO TAKE PLACE, WE WOULD NOT EXPECT ANY OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR NEXT TEN DAYS OR SO. WE MUST ASK GOJ TO HOLD THIS INFORMATION CLOSELY IN MEANTIME, BUT WE WANT HIS MAJESTY TO KNOW THAT WE HAVE STRATEGY IN MIND INVOLVING ACTIVE U.S. INVOLVEMENT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 167914

IN EFFORT TO MOVE PEACE PROCESS FORWARD AND TO SEEK HIS SUPPORT.
--

--HIS MAJESTY KNOWS THAT WE HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED NO PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE IN THE ABSENCE OF ACTIVE AND ON-GOING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES. MEETING OF EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTERS WOULD BE A NEW STEP IN THIS DIRECTION. U.S. WANTS TO HELP THE PARTIES TO NARROW THE DIFFERENCES SEPARATING THEM IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON A FRAMEWORK OF PRINCIPLES FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT, BUT OUR EFFORTS CAN BE MOST EFFECTIVE ONLY WHEN PARTIES ARE NEGOTIATING WITH EACH OTHER. AS WE MOVE FORWARD OVER THE WEEKS AHEAD, IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE FULL SUPPORT OF U.S. OPINION, WHERE PERCEPTION IS WIDESPREAD THAT PRESENT IMPASSE RESULTS AT LEAST IN PART FROM FACT DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE PRESIDENT SADAT WITHDREW HIS DELEGATION FROM JERUSALEM POLITICAL COMMITTEE TALKS. FOR U.S. TO BE ACTIVE IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE NO NEGOTIATIONS WERE GOING ON WOULD BE PERCEIVED AS PREEMPTING POSITIONS OF THE PARTIES THEMSELVES.

--WE WOULD NOT EXPECT LONDON TALKS IN THEMSELVES TO BRING ANY DRAMATIC BREAKTHROUGHS, BUT THEY COULD BE USEFUL IN PROBING POSITIONS AND PROPOSALS OF BOTH SIDES, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO PRINCIPLES GOVERNING AN ULTIMATE SETTLEMENT OF WEST BANK/GAZA QUESTION, AND PREPARING GROUND FOR WHAT WE SEE AS CONTINUING PROCESS WHICH COULD INCLUDE SUBSEQUENT VISIT OF SECRETARY VANCE TO AREA AND CONSULTATION WITH PARTIES ABOUT U.S. IDEAS WHICH COULD HELP BRIDGE GAPS. SECRETARY WOULD OF COURSE LOOK FORWARD TO

OPPORTUNITY ON ANY SUCH TRIP FOR PERSONAL TALKS WITH HIS MAJESTY.

--WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT HUSSEIN AND OTHER
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 167914

JORDANIAN LEADERS HAVE EXERCISED RESTRAINT IN THEIR COMMENTS ON PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS, DESPITE THEIR RESERVATIONS. WE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE SHARAF'S POINT MADE ON JUNE 21 THAT JORDAN MUST ACT IN ITS BEST INTEREST. AT THE SAME TIME, WE CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA, THE LEADERS OF MODERATE FORCES IN THE ARAB WORLD, NOT RUSH TO JUDGMENT PREMATURELY AND INSTEAD GIVE US A FULL OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY OUT THE MORE ACTIVE U.S. ROLE WE ENVISAGE.

--IT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT JORDAN NOT JOIN ITS VOICE WITH OTHERS IN THE ARAB WORLD WHO WILL BE CRITICIZING SADAT FOR EGYPTIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE LONDON TALKS. CRITICISM OF SADAT WOULD IN TURN TEND TO UNDERMINE THE VOICES OF REASON AND MODERATION ELSEWHERE IN THE ARAB WORLD, AND THUS THE POSITION OF JORDAN AND OTHER MODERATE STATES.

--WE ARE MAKING SIMILAR APPROACH TO THE SAUDI LEADERSHIP.

2. FYI: WE WOULD OF COURSE PREFER THAT THE JORDANIANS NOT COMMUNICATE TO SYRIA FACT THAT WE MAY BE ANNOUNCING SUCH A MEETING IN NEAR FUTURE, SINCE THIS COULD PRECIPITATE SYRIAN MEDIA ATTACKS ON SADAT BEFORE WE HAVE HAD A FULL CHANCE TO MAKE CLEAR TO THE WORLD THAT THE INITIATIVE HAS COME FROM US. WE HOPE YOU CAN FIND A TACTFUL WAY TO DISSUADE CROWN PRINCE OR SHARAF FROM TALKING TO THE SYRIANS AT THIS STAGE. END FYI.
VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS, PLANNING MEETINGS, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, PEACE PLANS, CAT-B, CHEROKEE 07/01/78
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE167914
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ALATHERTON, JR.:NEA/ARN:MDRAPER/HLK
Enclosure: DC IS ALSO X2
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840172-2663
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197807102/aaaadidk.tel
Line Count: 165
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e1784a6b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1852872
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LONDON MIDDLE EAST TALKS
TAGS: PGOV, PDIP, MPOL, EG, IS, XF, US, SA, JO
To: AMMAN CAIRO MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e1784a6b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014